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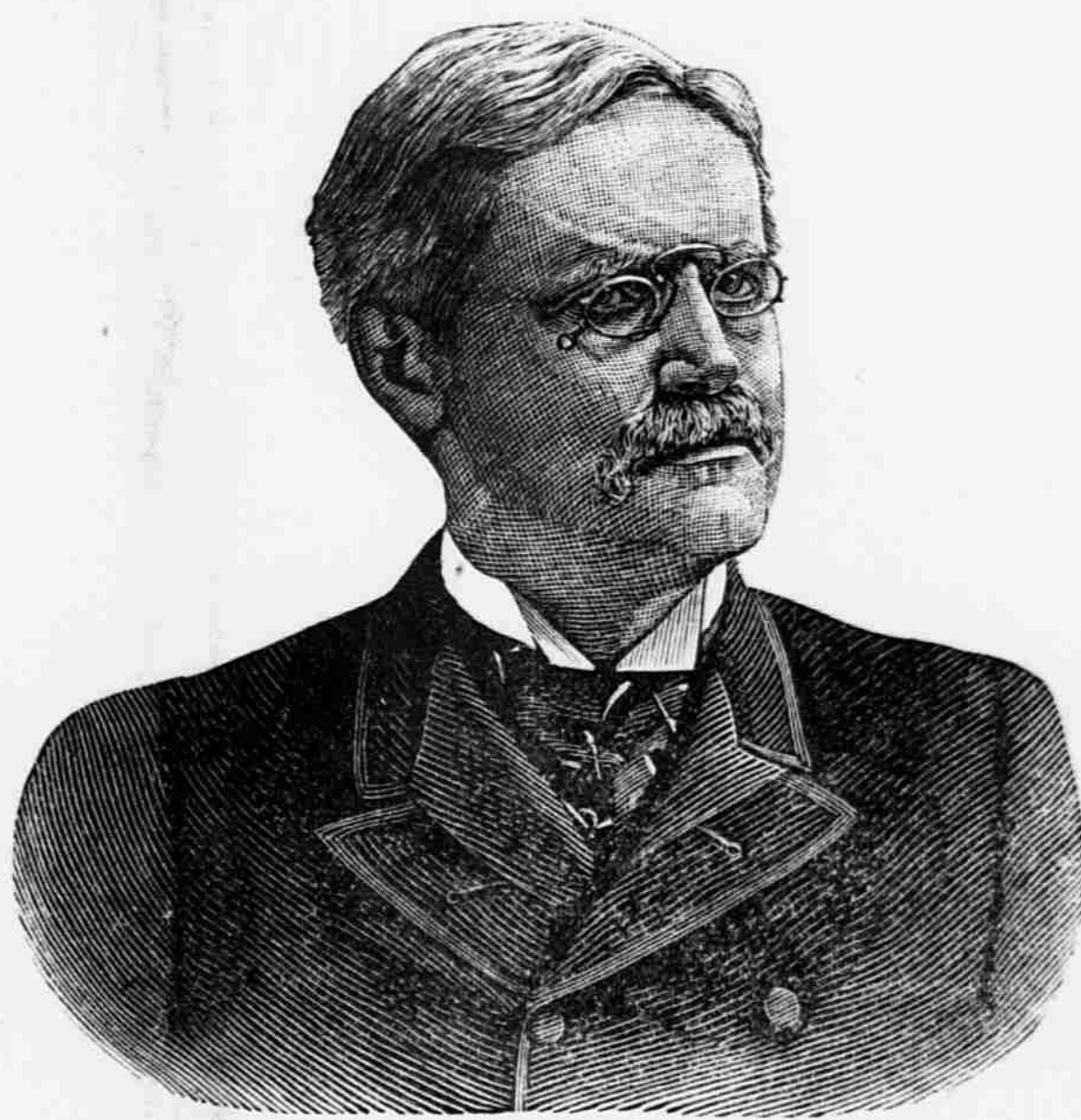
WASHINGTON

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COMMISSIONER J. W. ROSS,

OUR CHIEF RETURNED.

Commissioner John W. Ross who took French leave some few days ago without the knowledge or consent of over 200,000 people who love honor and respect him, returned to the city as mysteriously as he left and to the gratification of all. Col. Ross was greeted with fine addresses from those who had the same love for him as the father had for the Prodigal Son. His desk was bedecked with flowers as if the gods were to be crowned after a victorious return from the field of battle.

The people love Colonel Ross. He is the colored man's friend, he is the orphans' and widows' protector; he is a friend to the colored youth who in his struggling moments Colonel Ross has extended a welcome hand. He has endeared himself to the people by his honesty and fatherly advice to the needy. He is no demagogue nor will he associate with one. He is the people's Commissioner and for that and other reasons we in common with the people honor and respect him. Colonel, here is our hand.